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INSIDE

• BH considers  
builder's remedy  
pg. 6  
• Friedman pledges  
support for LGBTQ+  
community pg. 7

# BEVERLY PRESS

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Serving Beverly Hills, West Hollywood, Hancock Park and Miracle Mile

June 5, 2025

## Trees cause sticky situation on Beverly Hills street

■ City Council OKs removal of trees on Willaman

BY TABOR BREWSTER

The Beverly Hills City Council on June 3 approved the removal of 70 eucalyptus trees on Willaman Drive after residents expressed concerns over sap and insects.

City Arborist Ken Pfalzgraf said the eucalyptus trees on Willaman

Drive have "failed to thrive" due to repeated replacement.

"If I was a resident [on Willaman Drive], I would not be proud of what I am seeing there," Pfalzgraf said.

He said the sap from eucalyptus trees is difficult to remove from

See **Trees** page 30



photo by Tabor Brewster

Seventy eucalyptus trees on Willaman Drive will be replaced with crape myrtle trees.

## LACMA's galleries make music history

■ Harmonious public previews planned in late June

BY EDWIN FOLVEN

The Los Angeles County Museum of Art's new David Geffen Galleries will be filled with artful music on June 26-28 when the public is invited to enter the building for the first time for a special sneak peek.

Guests will tour the elevated exhibition level of the 110,000 square-foot new structure at sunset and take in the magnificent views of the city. The public tours will be followed by previews for LACMA members from June 30-July 6, which will mark the final time guests are allowed inside before the April 2026 opening. LACMA CEO and Wallis Annenberg Director Michael Govan said it will also be the last time the building is empty, as immediately afterward thousands of artworks will be installed over the next nine months.

Govan added that the public is in for a special treat during the upcoming events, which will be a



photo by Edwin Folven

The public can tour the sweeping new structure and hear a special musical presentation by Kamasi Washington.

"sonic preview" melding architecture and music. They will also have a chance to witness history being made as composer, bandleader and saxophonist Kamasi Washington, joined by more than 100 musicians, presents his work "Harmony of Difference" in its

entirety for the first time. The six-movement suite explores the beauty of contrast and unity through the musical concept of counterpoint, where different melodies are combined into a harmonious whole.

See **LACMA** page 30

## West Hollywood comes out strong for Pride

■ Thousands flock to the city for music festival and parade

BY SAM MULICK

More than 100,000 people came out to celebrate the LGBTQ+ community during West Hollywood's annual Pride weekend May 30-June 1. In its fourth iteration since breaking from LA Pride, attendees came

together amid federal attacks on the LGBTQ+ community.

West Hollywood hosted the OUTLOUD Music Festival - featuring performances by Lizzo, Remi Wolf and Paris Hilton - as well as the WeHoPride Street Fair, Women's Freedom Festival and WeHo Pride Parade.

"I think it's important to celebrate, now more than ever, and to be loud about who we are. The current administration has made it

clear that they do not care about our community and have actively been trying to take away resources that help LGBTQIA+ people," said Alyssa Policarpio, who attended the WeHoPride Street Fair on May 31. "To me, Pride isn't just parties in WeHo. It's also about using your voice, holding friends or family accountable when they do or say things that are harmful to the community and actively standing up for what's right."

English model and actress Cara Delevingne led the parade as its Guardian Icon. "Love on the Spectrum" star Pari Kim, former NFL player Chris Kluwe and filmmaker Nava Mau also marched as Icons.

In addition to the festivities, community organizations and sponsors set up tents along the Santa Monica Boulevard parade route throughout the weekend.

Councilman Danny Hang said one of his favorite moments of the weekend was handing out harm reduction materials from the city of West Hollywood's street fair booth, including testing devices, fentanyl test strips and Narcan.

"Harm reduction saves lives, and it was powerful to see our city lead

See **Pride** page 31



photo by Jon Viscott

A huge audience gathered in West Hollywood Park for the OUTLOUD Music Festival on May 31.



photo by Tabor Brewster

The beloved delicatessen on North Beverly Drive may relocate.

## New development may replace Nate 'n Al's

■ Deli is prepared to secure new location in Beverly Hills

BY TABOR BREWSTER

Since 1945, Beverly Hills residents have flocked to Nate 'n Al's for its corned beef and pastrami sandwiches. The beloved

Jewish deli is among the oldest in the Los Angeles area, and has remained a thriving landmark of the city's iconic cuisine. However, as the landlord of the 414 N. Beverly Drive property plans to redevelop the building into a three-story retail space, the future of the original location is in jeopardy.

See **Deli** page 31

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## 'Tarfest' puts spotlight on arts and music in the Miracle Mile

LAUNCH LA presents the 22nd annual "Tarfest-A Day in the Park" music and arts festival on Saturday, June 14, from 2-8 p.m. in Pan Pacific Park, 7600 Beverly Blvd.

The free one-day free festival celebrates L.A.'s cultural diversity with musical programming curated by Azul Amaral, one of L.A.'s top creative producers, cultural programmers and DJs. Azul was formerly program manager of Gloria Molina Grand Park and creative director of Grand Performances.

Additional performers include Jéli Daniel, aka CHROME-QUEEN, a DJ and founder of the all-female vinyl collective Red Light Vinyl. Emcee and DJ

Kavione Griffith, aka KG SuperStar, brings the rhythmic, vibrant pulse of the Caribbean. Award winning DJ and former KCRW 89.9 personality Garth Trinidad promises an eclectic, modern musical landscape. Musician and producer Alberto López, and Cuban born violinist Dayren Santamaria, will also perform on the "Tarfest" stage.

Catering to all ages, "Tarfest" offers free art-making and cultural activities presented by UCLA Health and local partners such as the Korean Cultural Center, Academy Museum of Motion Pictures, Tar Pits Museum, Petersen Automotive Museum and Gloria Molina Grand

Park. Artisan Booths, curated by Runway Boutique, will feature handcrafted jewelry, specialty goods and unique wares for purchase. Many of the best gourmet food trucks will be present. Intergenerational hip-hop and break-dancing collective JUICE (Justice by Uniting in Creative Energy) will conduct dance workshops. WAYMO will provide insight into state-of-the-art ride-hailing vehicles and Metro will offer information on public transportation.

"TARFEST has been part of the L.A. community for over 20 years, remaining an annual free event through massive changes that have transformed the city and our neighborhood," LAUNCH LA and "Tarfest" founder James Panozzo said. "This festival is about holding a mirror to our large, diverse community and by honoring what's best about our city in the creative core of



"Tarfest" includes fun activities for visitors of all ages.

Los Angeles."

Free parking is available at Pan Pacific Park, with overflow parking

available at The Grove Drive next information, visit

## Exhibition traces the history of L.A. with maps and art

The Los Angeles Public Library presents "UnMapping LA: Concrete Landscapes and Re-Imagined Futures" running from June 7-Sept. 21 in Central Library's Annenberg Gallery, 630 W. Fifth St.

The thought-provoking exhibition by artist and researcher Debra Scacco explores the human and environmental costs of freeway development through the lens of historic maps and contemporary artworks. To examine and reimagine the city's buried landscapes, "UnMapping LA" juxtaposes his-

toric cartographic materials and newly commissioned contemporary artworks by Scacco. Using Sanborn fire insurance maps, documentation of changing river courses, maps of Indigenous village sites and freeway outlines, the exhibit traces the transformations of Los Angeles' ecological and cultural topographies. Archival materials reveal how policies such as redlining, freeway construction and water diversion continue to impact communities today. "UnMapping LA" illuminates the systemic forces that have dictated

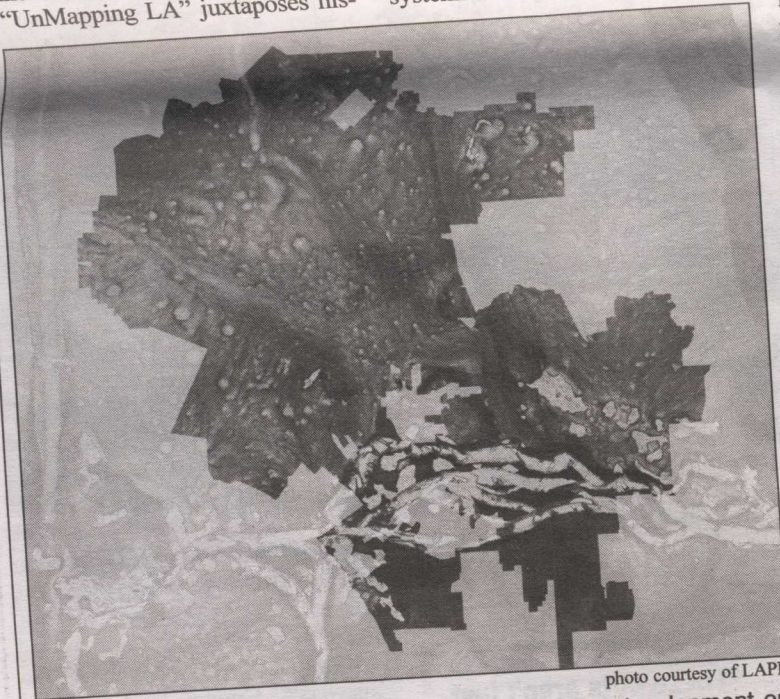
the city's form, forces that have elevated infrastructure and economic development over the health of ecosystems and communities.

Developed as an evolution of the artist's 2019 project "Compass Rose," "UnMapping LA" draws on years of research and collaboration. The exhibition builds upon partnerships with Oxy Arts, the Institute for the Study of Los Angeles, Occidental College Special Collections and College Archives, the Sanborn Map Collection at the Department of Geography and Environmental Studies at CSUN and the Los Angeles Public Library. The project is also a key contributor to "(NE)LA Stories," an oral history archive focused on documenting lived experiences in the city's northeast neighborhoods.

"We hope that 'UnMapping LA' will spark conversations about how our city's past continues to shape its present," City Librarian John F. Szabo said. "This exhibition is part of Los Angeles Public Library's mission to share stories that reflect the lives of Angelenos and to support civic engagement by providing access to history and culture."

"By creatively connecting historical archives with personal stories from members of the community, 'UnMapping LA' offers a powerful new way of seeing Los Angeles," Central Library Director Kren Malone said.

The public is invited to join Scacco on a walkthrough of "UnMapping LA" on Saturday, Sept. 20, at noon in the Annenberg Gallery. For information, visit [lapl.org/exhibits](http://lapl.org/exhibits).



The "UnMapping LA" exhibition explores the cost of development on the landscape.

## GEARYS and Patek Philippe celebrate new Rodeo Drive boutique

GEARYS Beverly Hills, a cornerstone of luxury retail celebrating 95 years in business, announced the grand opening of its new Patek Philippe boutique on Thursday, May 22. Located at 314 N. Rodeo Drive, the 1,862-square-foot space is a landmark for the brand and Beverly Hills' iconic shopping district.

In addition to a curated, world-class selection of Patek Philippe timepieces, the boutique features a rooftop garden and event space designed to host exclusive gatherings and offer guests a refined, elevated experience in the heart of Rodeo Drive. The new boutique reflects the continued evolution of a

partnership that began in 2004, when GEARYS first introduced Patek Philippe to its clientele.

"Patek Philippe represents the pinnacle of watchmaking, and our partnership with this extraordinary brand is one we hold in the highest regard," said Thomas Blumenthal, president and CEO of GEARYS Beverly Hills.

Guests of the boutique can explore an exceptional collection of timepieces in a setting that blends Swiss craftsmanship with Beverly Hills sophistication. The space embodies Patek Philippe's core values of independence, heritage and innovation within a boutique experience curated to match GEARYS' renowned standard of service.

For information, visit [patekboutiquebeverlyhills.com](http://patekboutiquebeverlyhills.com) and [gearys.com](http://gearys.com).



Members of the Blumenthal and Meyer families – who have owned and operated GEARYS since 1953 – celebrated the launch on May 22.

## Gilmore Heritage Auto Show rolls into the Farmers M

The Original Farmers Market, corner of third and Fairfax, is revving up for the 29th annual Gilmore Heritage Auto Show on Saturday, June 7, from 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Nearly 70 American classics will be on display throughout the market, showcasing customs, hot rods and trucks. This year's theme is "L.A. Strong: A Tribute to American Muscle Cars" to honor

the resilience Angelenos. Highlighting a 1970 Plymouth Star, 1969 Chevrolet 396 from the Peter Museum and a Mustang GT-350.

The Original Farmers Market is located at 6333 W. Fairfax. For information, visit [la.com](http://la.com).



See a variety of vintage vehicles including Chevrolets, Fords at the annual Gilmore Heritage Auto Show.

## Enjoy music and dance summer at Descanso Gardens

Delight in the culture of Ukraine on Thursday, June 12, from 5:30-6:45 p.m. at Descanso Gardens. The Summer Music and Dance Series opens with Ukrainian folk dances performed by the Chervona Kalyna Ukrainian Dance Ensemble. Experience the energy of lively movement, colorful costumes, music and song that capture

the spirit of Ukrainian heartfelt connection. Music and Dance Series with Vivir Brasil on June 10, and Pacifico Dance on Thursday, Aug. 14. Ticket price is \$15. Descanso Gardens is located at 1418 Descanso Drive, Flintridge. Visit [descansogardens.com](http://descansogardens.com).



The Chervona Kalyna Ukrainian Dance Ensemble performs.



# Subway work keeps quick pace in June

Metro is working on the D Line extension project at many locations along Wilshire Boulevard in June. Public transit riders are reminded that Metro has closed the Wilshire/Western and Wilshire/Normandie stations on the D Line through July 25. The closure is needed to connect the existing D Line with the new subway extension project, which will run between Wilshire/Western and Westwood and will include seven new stations. During the closures, buses will run between the Wilshire/Western and Wilshire/Vermont stations to accommodate D Line passengers. Bus Shuttle 855 and Metro Lines 720 and 20 are transporting riders in the area during the closure. The B Line also runs between Union Station and the Wilshire/Vermont station, and B Line frequency is increased from every 12-minutes to every eight minutes.

Metro plans to close the intersections of Wilshire/Fairfax, Wilshire/La Brea and Wilshire/Western for repaving on different weekends in June and July.

Wilshire/Fairfax will be closed from June 13-16, and Wilshire/La Brea will be closed from June 27-30. Wilshire/Western will be closed on a weekend to be announced in July. The closures run from Friday at 9 p.m. through Monday at 6 a.m. At Wilshire/Fairfax, Wilshire Boulevard will be closed from San Diego Way to Spaulding Avenue. At Wilshire/La Brea, the closure will be located between Mansfield and Cloverdale avenues. At Wilshire/Western, the closure runs between Western Avenue and Saint Andrews Place.

Street restoration continues in June on the north side of Wilshire Boulevard near the Wilshire/La Cienega station. Two lanes on Wilshire Boulevard are open in each direction between La Cienega and San Vicente boulevards. Work is occurring on the station within a staging yard at Wilshire and La Cienega boulevards. Major demobilization work continues within the Gale Staging Yard, located at the northwest corner of Wilshire Boulevard and Gale Drive.

On Saturday, June 7, from 6 a.m.-10pm, westbound Wilshire Boulevard will be closed at San Vicente Boulevard. The traffic control supports the installation of an irrigation line along the north side of Wilshire Boulevard.

Metro will also test electrical generators on Saturday, June 7, from 8-10 a.m., at the entrance plaza to the future La Cienega station. Crews will run the generators and monitor activity for the full two-hour period. The generators are designed to power the station during a major power outage.

Ongoing station construction is occurring at the Wilshire/Rodeo station. K-rail enclosures will remain in place along the northern and southern curb lanes of Wilshire Boulevard in June to support station construction and appendage structure and sidewalk construction. Two lanes will remain open along Wilshire Boulevard between Beverly and Crescent drives. Left turns are restricted from westbound Wilshire Boulevard to South Cañon Drive. The AKA Alley has



Crews are working on the Wilshire/Rodeo subway station in a construction staging area along the north side of Wilshire Boulevard.

## Rascón announces campaign for State Senate's 26th District

Coalition builder Sarah Rascón, a dedicated public servant with 15 years of experience serving the Northeast Los Angeles communities, is launching her campaign for California State Senate District 26.

Raised by her immigrant grandmother in El Sereno, Rascón relied on public elementary schools and social services to give her a strong start in life. She became the first generation in her family to graduate from college, and through internship opportunities, embarked on a career to help deliver resources and advance justice for Angelenos. Rascón is running for State Senate because she believes California needs to help lift up families who are experiencing the brunt of our economic, housing and environmental crises.

"Too many Angelenos are

stretched thin. We're working long hours, caring for our families, and contributing to our community's well-being, yet no matter our income, we struggle with the rising costs of housing and health care. I've spent my career building coalitions and turning ideas from community members into projects that have improved community safety, climate resilience and educational outcomes. As your state senator, I'll be a champion for amplifying the voices of working families and uplifting our underserved communities," Rascón said.

Rascón has served as director of county and regional affairs for Mayor Karen Bass, deputy executive director for environmental equity with the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority and as a field representative for former

Assemblyman Jimmy Gomez (D-Los Angeles). In the State Senate, Rascón will use her experience to ensure community members are heard and their ideas are translated into tangible solutions.

"Working together, we can help advance economic equity and social justice. In the State Senate, I'll prioritize advancing policies that improve workforce development, housing affordability, environmental justice, educational opportunity, small business assistance and support for our entertainment industry workers," Rascón said.

The 26th State Senate District is currently represented by California Sen. Maria Elena Durazo (D-Los Angeles), who announced her candidacy for Los Angeles County Supervisor and will not seek reelection to the Legislature. Senate District 26 includes Hollywood, East Hollywood, Hancock Park, Larchmont, Thai Town, Los Feliz, Koreatown and Wilshire Center. The Primary Election will take place on Tuesday, June 2, 2026.

## Padilla, Schiff urge full continuation of disaster preparedness program

U.S. Sen. Alex Padilla (D-Calif.) joined Sen. Adam Schiff (D-Calif.), U.S. Rep. Jimmy Panetta (D-Santa Cruz) and a bipartisan group of California delegation members in demanding the restoration of the Federal Emergency Management Agency's Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities program, known as BRIC. The Trump administration recently announced it is ending the BRIC program and canceling all BRIC applications from fiscal years 2020-23. The legislators called it a shortsighted move that jeopardizes pre-disaster mitigation measures and infrastructure resiliency efforts in California and throughout the country.

President Donald Trump signed the BRIC program into law as part of the 2018 Disaster Reform Act, helping fund local projects that reduce damage from flooding, tornadoes and weather-related events. Since its inception, the BRIC program has invested \$5 billion in grants for resilient infrastructure. Projects in California include drought and earthquake mitigation projects and wildfire management projects in areas still

working to recover from 2020 wildfires that were some of the deadliest and costliest in California history.

"We are deeply concerned about the impact of this decision. If FEMA decides to ultimately withdraw its federal investment, these counties will be forced to abandon these life- and infrastructure-saving projects," wrote the bipartisan coalition of lawmakers. "Ending the BRIC Program will result in higher costs for Americans, especially as natural disasters become more frequent and severe. The BRIC Program allows the state of California and its many communities to shift away from reactive disaster spending and toward research-supported, proactive investment in community resilience."

Every dollar spent on pre-disaster mitigation and preparedness saves between \$6 and \$13 in damages, cleanup costs and economic impact, the legislators said. California stands to lose over \$1 billion in disaster resilience and mitigation funding if the Trump administration proceeds with the cancellation of the BRIC program.

## Rebuild Marketplace connects residents with fire resistance

The U.S. Green Building Council California and BuildingEase on May 29 announced a groundbreaking partnership to create the Rebuild Marketplace – a centralized platform to connect communities, builders and homeowners with sustainable and fire-resilient building materials in the wake of California's increasingly frequent and severe wildfires. The marketplace supports the recently released California Wildfire Rebuilding Guide, produced by USGBC California in partnership with Arup.

The first-of-its-kind marketplace addresses the urgent need for climate-adaptive, low-carbon rebuilding solutions in wildfire-impacted areas. Designed with environmental performance, community resilience and reducing consumer cost in mind, the marketplace will feature vetted materials and technologies that support regenerative design, lower embodied carbon and enhance fire resistance, while promoting the concept of aggregated purchasing to save money for owners while boosting sales of the best products.

"California is on the front lines of the climate crisis, and many of us in

**"California is on the front lines of the climate crisis, and many of us in the L.A. area have been deeply impacted by this tragedy and are engaged in how we rebuild while improving the future of our communities."**

*Ben Stapleton, executive director of USGBC California*

the L.A. area have been deeply impacted by this tragedy and are engaged in how we rebuild while improving the future of our communities," said Ben Stapleton, executive director of USGBC California. "Rebuilding after a wildfire shouldn't mean compromising on sustainability or resilience. This partnership with BuildingEase is about empowering communities to build back smarter

and greener – with speed, confidence and impact while reducing cost. Between the marketplace and our rebuilding guide, we hope to provide a practical, user-friendly and positive path forward in the rebuilding process."

BuildingEase, a digital platform focused on accelerating sustainable construction, brings its advanced product vetting tools, supplier database and streamlined procurement capabilities to the initiative. By integrating USGBC California's green building expertise with BuildingEase's technology, the marketplace ensures that materials meet rigorous performance criteria and align with green certification programs like LEED and CALGreen.

"Our mission at BuildingEase is to remove the friction from building sustainably," said Barbra BatShalom, CEO of BuildingEase. "We're proud to work with USGBC California to deliver a tool that not only simplifies post-wildfire rebuilding but also raises the bar for what's possible in sustainable construction."

For information, visit [usgbc-ca.org/rebuild-marketplace](https://usgbc-ca.org/rebuild-marketplace).

## Notable Quotes

*"It takes no compromise to give people their rights ... it takes no money to respect the individual. It takes no political deal to give people freedom. It takes no survey to remove repression."*

Harvey Milk (1930-1978)

Harvey Milk, a U.S. Navy Veteran who served during the Korean War, was the first widely known and nationally recognized openly gay man elected to public office in the United States. In 1977 Milk won a seat on the San Francisco Board of Supervisors thanks to a canny political combination of immigrant, elderly, minority, union and gay voter support. His vast grassroots campaign and subsequent victory signaled a coming-of-age for San Francisco's LGBT population. Milk was destined to enjoy a bright future both within San Francisco's political realm as well as on the national stage. But on November 27, 1978, Milk was assassinated along with San Francisco Mayor George Moscone. Disgruntled former City Supervisor Dan White was ultimately convicted, not of first-degree murder, but of the lesser charge of voluntary manslaughter – a verdict that triggered riots in the gay community.



# LACMA plans harmonious previews

From page 1

"I worked so hard to see if we could get this little space of time ... the few weeks where the building would be empty before we started art installation and it would be clean and accessible to, I want to say, give it a proper blessing," Govan said. "This performance, I've been talking to Kamasi for years about it ... because I was so taken by his composition. 'Harmony of Difference' is his homage to Los Angeles, to the diversity of the people of Los Angeles. And I sort of joked with him that it was our theme song for the museum - it should be. And there was this idea that the building empty, without curtains, without art, without anything, would be resonant, like an instrument. So he came during the early part of the year, even last year once, to test it out, first with four or five musicians, and then with 25, and it works. He's been working diligently to try to do something that he's never done before. I don't know that it's been done anywhere before."

Govan said guests will enter through the north side of the building and experience the fluid music as they walk through the ever-changing galleries. The musicians will be stationed at different locations throughout the enormous structure spanning Wilshire Boulevard.

"The idea is that it fills or infuses the entire space, all three football fields of it, with sound that is connected, overlapping and resonant in space as well as time," Govan added.

Washington wrote "Harmony of Difference" in 2017, "to celebrate the beauty of humanity's diversity through a metaphor of music," he said in a statement announcing the upcoming previews.

"In music it is the combination of different notes, chords and rhythms that create beautiful songs. The same is true in life; most of humanity's greatest achievements came from the combined efforts of people of different backgrounds with different knowledge and abilities. As we come together to learn and work

with each other humanity advances and grows," Washington said. "This will be the first time I will be performing the entire 'Harmony of Difference' suite in front of a live audience, and to do it in L.A., a true haven of diversity and my hometown, is really special. The Geffen Galleries has a truly unique acoustic environment that is perfect for 'Harmony of Difference.' This performance will have more than 100 musicians spread throughout the space in ensembles of varying types playing the entire suite simultaneously. As people walk through the galleries they will directly hear the musicians they are closest to while hearing the 'spirit' of the other groups. This will be a truly once in a lifetime sonic experience that I'm so excited for people to witness."

As anticipation builds for the upcoming previews and the grand opening next April, Govan said a lot of hard work lies ahead as artworks are moved inside and finishing touches are put on the building and surrounding grounds. He said a final timeline for the opening and plans

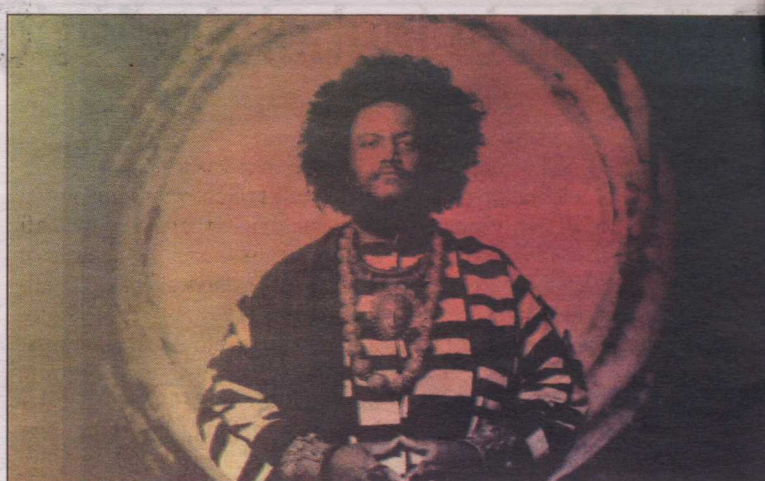


photo by Vincent Haycock

Kamasi Washington will perform his work "Harmony of Difference" in its entirety for the first time.

for a celebration are still being formulated, but they will include events for artists and the public, and possibly a block party.

"April is around the corner in museum time. We're focused right now on making this preview beautiful, and then we're just starting to sketch out what the openings will look like," Govan said. "We just need to get through this month, and then I think we'll probably announce the specific dates. It's going to be fun. We have a lot of

ideas."

The public previews will be held on June 26, 27 and 28 at 7 p.m. Tickets will be made available at lacma.org/kamasiwashington on June 12 at 10 a.m. and will be \$100 for the public and \$80 for LACMA members. Sign up on the website to receive an email reminder the day before the sale date. The previews for LACMA members will be held June 30-July 6. To become a member, visit lacma.org. LACMA is located at 5905 Wilshire Blvd.

## Trees will be removed on Willaman Drive

From page 1

cars and houses, and the sap also attracts rhinoceros beetles, which weaken the trees' overall foliage.

According to a staff report, in 2024, a majority of property owners on North Willaman Drive petitioned the city to remove the trees. Property owners on South Willaman Drive also joined the petition.

The city held meetings with residents and polled them on potential tree replacements. Residents were given the options of alternating tree species on the street or a uniform tree type. Residents chose from Australian willow, crape myrtle and holly oak trees.

Approximately 61% of Willaman Drive residents responded to the survey, or 43 of 71 total addresses. According to the city, 91% of respondents favored the replacement of the eucalyptus trees. Additionally, 84% of respondents preferred a uniform tree type on the street and 54% preferred crape myrtle trees over the two other options.

Crape myrtles are deciduous trees, meaning they shed all of their leaves in the fall as opposed to evergreen trees - including Australian willow and holly oak - which retain leaves and needles throughout the year.

Council members asked Pfalzgraf if it was made clear to residents that the crape myrtles do not have leaves for a portion of the year, to which he responded yes.

"I have some concerns over the flowers dropping off and the leaves dropping off, but it is what the residents want, and they've been informed, so I'm OK with it," Councilman Lester Friedman said.

"I have the same concern with regard to trees being bare at certain times of the year, so as long as that's been relayed to the residents, I'm in favor of the process as well," Mayor Sharon Nazarian said.

The tree removal and replacement project will cost the city approximately \$200,000, with \$95,500 for the removal and \$105,000 for installation. The city did not receive any public comments on the tree replacement.

## BHUSD launches Dual Language Academy, expands counseling

The Beverly Hills Unified School District Board of Education took major action to advance academic opportunity and student success, approving the launch of a Dual Language Academy program and a significant enhancement to the BHHS Counseling Center.

The Dual Language Academy program will begin with kindergarten and first grade in fall 2025 at El Rodeo and Horace Mann Elementary. The program will expand each year to become a full K-5 model.

Students will receive instruction in English and Spanish across core subjects, developing strong academic foundations while becoming bilingual and biliterate. The program is designed to build cognitive flexibility, cross-cultural understanding and readiness for

the California State Seal of Bilingualism.

"This is a long-term investment in academic excellence and global readiness," Superintendent Dr. Alex Cherniss said. "The board has taken an important step forward that will benefit generations of BHUSD students."

The board also approved an enhancement of the Beverly Hills High School Counseling Center to strengthen its focus on college access and admissions. The new model includes three additional counselors, ensuring students receive more personalized grade-level academic and college guidance. The expansion also features a full-time wellness counselor and a TK-12 director of counseling to create a streamlined support system. For information, visit bhUSD.org.

## Attack in Colorado and incident in Beverly Hills cause anger

From page 4

country, especially targeting the Jewish community. And while this may have happened in Boulder, its implications are national, and we should all be alarmed," Nazarian said. "In Beverly Hills, we will always speak out against intolerance whenever it shows its cowardly face. On behalf of the Beverly Hills City Council and community, we deplore this horrific act and call on the suspect to be prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law. We must have the moral courage and clarity to unite and stand up to hate, antisemitism and discrimination in all its forms."

On May 30, two days before the Boulder attack, an antisemitic incident took place outside the Italian restaurant Il Pastaio, the Beverly Hills Police Department said. According to Sgt. Audra Alatorre, police were called to the restaurant when it was reported that individuals were harassing customers dining outdoors and making antisemitic comments. A police report was taken, and no arrests were made, Alatorre said.

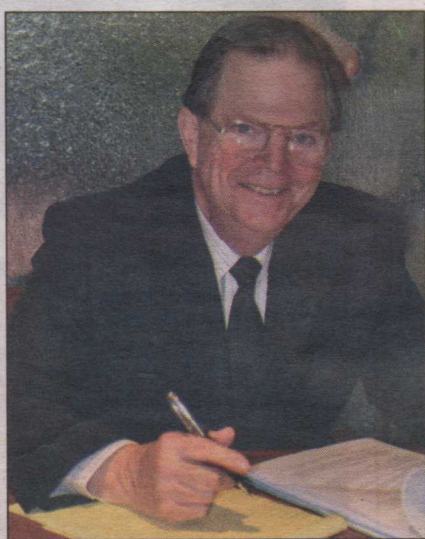
A video posted to social media appeared to show men associated

with a group which refers to itself as the "Palestine News Network" approaching customers outside Il Pastaio and repeatedly questioning them on their stance on the Israel-Palestine conflict. The men also disparage and insult customers in the video.

According to the Anti-Defamation League, "Palestine News Network is a network of people who harass strangers, often Jews, prodding them about their stance on Palestine. The group also expresses support for anti-Israel terrorism and violence."

Nazarian condemned the incident and said she is working with the city attorney, police department and restaurants to "determine what can be done to prevent this type of incident in the future."

"I am appalled at events that took place at one of our restaurants on Friday night," Nazarian said. "Diners who were simply trying to enjoy their meal were asked about their political views while being filmed ... Our No. 1 priority remains the safety and security of the community."



## 10 Reasons Why I Don't Want An Estate Plan

1. I want large sums of my hard-earned money to go to a law firm.
2. I want the government to decide who gets my life savings.
3. What for? My house is only worth a half-million dollars.
4. I really don't care who raises our children.
5. I want a total stranger to go through all of my personal papers and financial affairs.
6. I like family fights - especially unnecessary ones.
7. I don't care who inherits my hard earned money.
8. I've been messy in life; I'll be messy in death.
9. They say you can't take it with you, but what if you can?
10. Probate. Must be fun.

If you don't do it for yourself, please do it for those you care about.

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from page 1

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